



COTS Agenda Requests

August 2002

Virginia's Governmental Information Security

Presenters: Samuel T. Redwine, Jr., James Madison University; Jim Adams, Department of Information Technology

Time Requested: 20 minutes

Requested by: Department of Information Technology, Security Division

Synopsis: The Commonwealth Information Security Center at James Madison University partnered with the Security Division of the Department of Information Technology to develop the technical report *Virginia's Governmental Information Security: A Guide for Commonwealth Executives after September 11, 2001*. The presentation would provide an overview of major findings, potential executive and manager action steps, and low budget first steps to help prevent cyberattacks and ensure information security in the Commonwealth. Copies of the final paper, completed in June 2002, would be distributed to COTS members.

Information Sharing

Presenter: Rich Bishop, Director of Public Sector Systems Engineering and Architecture Team, SAS

Time Requested: 20 minutes

Requested by: Bud Kinzer

Synopsis: SAS would provide a presentation on Information Sharing as a concept and a

"Pilot" methodology for implementing any software the Commonwealth of Virginia might be considering in 2002 and beyond. Information Sharing is the ability to take data from multiple databases on multiple hardware platforms and bring them together onto one platform for decision support, reporting, and analysis. In the current budget environment, Information Sharing is far more important than the Enterprise ERP-like projects many Departments and Agencies were considering a year ago. SAS has implemented a "Pilot" methodology for working with Public Sector Accounts that has been very well accepted by many State and Federal Government agencies. This Pilot process could apply to any software vendor, not just specific to SAS. The Pilot process allows a department or agency to move in small incremental steps that prove the concept and the viability of the desired solution without the risk of a "big bang" implementation gone bad.

Knowledge Management – A Valuable Tool for Improving Government

Presenter: Garrick J. Solovey, Chief Executive Officer, WPI

Time Requested: 30 minutes for presentation

Utilization of a Knowledge Management System (KMS) helps state agencies to better focus on the specific needs of its constituents and to enhance the delivery of services. It is a Web-based system used by Communities of Practice that couples a dynamic database with an advanced multi-function search engine, and allows real-time User interaction to produce *knowledge*. Specifically, the KMS supports improved state government in the following areas: Strategic Planning, Policy Making, Financial Analysis and Budgeting, Emergency Planning and Response, Program/Project Management, Human Resource Management, Peer Review and Professional Exchange, and Employee/Stakeholder Communications. Benefits of the KMS include improved government communications, breakdown on institutional information barriers, reduction in task process time, creation of more innovative ideas, less organizational costs, and increased government efficiency. The KMS *empowers users* while maintaining informational configuration control. Thus, government can more easily and quickly exchange information to result in increased performance for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

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